

## ABSTRACT

5 The invention relates to biological markers of transmissible subacute spongiform  
encephalopathies and to uses thereof in diagnostic methods. The invention also relates to  
tools and/or kits that can be used for carrying out said methods (reagents, probes, primers,  
antibodies, chips, cells, etc.), to their preparation and to uses thereof. The invention can be  
used for detecting the presence of an infection in mammals including during the early  
10 phase.